

**Northern Virginia MR/MI Work Group Meeting
March 12, 2003**

The Northern Virginia MR/MI Work Group met at the Fairfax County Government Center on Wednesday, March 12, 2003.

Attending:

Mark S. Diorio, Ph.D., Director, NVTC
Alan El-Tagi, Behavioral Concepts
Fred Firestone, Case Management, Loudoun County CSB
Russell Garth, Parent
Sharon Hoover, MH Clinician, Prince William County CSB
Leslie Katz, Director of Social Work, NVTC
Nancy Mercer, Exec. Director, Community Residences
Brian Miller, Director of MR Services, Prince Wm County CSB
Lou Rosato, DSW, NVMHI
Christopher Tull, Team Leader, Emergency Services, Woodburn
Pat Vinson, Exec. Director, Job Discovery, Inc.
Joanna Wise-Barnes, MR/DD Systems Coord., Arlington CSB
Jennifer Kurtz, MA, CM Services, Arlington CSB

Mark Diorio convened the meeting at 9:00 AM.

Lou Rosato updated the NVMHI information sheet of *"Identifiers Removed Disposition of Dually Diagnosed (MH/MR) Patients 7/100 through 12/31/02"* and distributed this information to those present. A number was assigned to all consumers in order to identify if a consumer received placement services on more than one occasion.

Mark has contacted Western State Hospital (WSH) to obtain similar data from them. WSH has so many individuals with MR/MH that they have open a unit to serve them all. They have done that because this population is vulnerable around a higher functioning MR population. Also, the level of care required is much higher and the typical psychosocial rehab treatment provided needs to be modified for this population due to various cognitive and social factors.

Fairfax CSB provided a handout of their survey of Dual Dx client. Alan and Chris reported that specific individual data could only be retrieved for a specific crisis or a distinct case. Also this information came from primary MH diagnoses, not MR with MH diagnoses. It was determined that a common barrier with CSB's was that data is not easily found or available.

Loudoun CSB provided a handout of Dual Dx data. They volunteered to complete the spreadsheet by adding data to column "number of clients".

Arlington CSB reported that 17% of their MR population has a dual diagnosis. Arlington CSB is looking to hire a Dual Dx case manager. Joanna is soliciting advice for KSAs to do this job.

It was a consensus that common barrier to providing services and planning for services in the Dual Dx population is the lack of easily accessible on this population. Previous effort by the No Va workgroup and other regional groups were similar...frustration in getting the required information using current databases. It was decided to take a new slant to generate some information. Everyone will think about some real cases that they have served successfully, sort of successfully, and did not serve well. Based upon these cases, generate a summary of the services provided that made it a success, some challenges that needed to be addressed, things that could have been done better, services that if available would have saved the day. Committee members could present real cases in each category of success, or compile several cases to generate the information. This homework is to be sent to Mark electronically by April 1st. Mark will compile it all for the next mgt scheduled for April 4th.

DMHMRSAS will be sending out a letter to all regional MR/MH Workgroups providing some direction as to process and identified regional expectations.

Other key No VA regional issues were determined to be lack of staff training, supervision and flexibility in the funding stream to meet client needs.

Mark will send the NADD teleconference series flyer to all parties.

Mark presented an update on the Statewide Autism Planning Council's efforts to develop a web-based and face-to-face training curriculum.

Mark presented information about an upcoming national NASMHPD workgroup to address policy issues.

The No VA MR/MI Workgroup is to provide a report to the No VA Regional Partnership as part of a much larger report concerning reinvestment and restructuring of current services to better meet MR/MH needs.

Next meeting: Friday, April 4th from 9:30 to 11:30 at Fairfax County Govt. Center
Room #7

Respectively submitted by: _____
Mark S. Diorio, Chairperson